# Algebra 1 

Course Syllabus

## Course Description:

Courses include the study of properties and operations of the real number system, evaluating rational algebraic expressions, solving and graphing first degree equations and inequalities, translating word problems into equations, operations with and factoring of polynomials, and solving simple quadratic equations.

## Materials List:

$\checkmark$ Binder with loose-leaf paper or notebook for homework
$\checkmark$ Composition notebook for notes
$\checkmark$ Pencil for homework and notes
$\checkmark$ Pen for correcting and sometimes notes
$\checkmark$ Calculator-A scientific calculator is necessary for this course. A Texas Instruments graphing calculator (TI84) is encouraged and allowed on the ACT and MCA tests. The school does have graphing calculators available for use during class.
$\checkmark$ Textbooks will be provided for the student's use, and must be covered at all times. Fines will be assessed for any damage to the textbook. Students are responsible for any damage that occurs to their assigned text, and for any damage they incur to another student's textbook.

## Daily Work:

Math, like any other activity, is made easier by consistent practice and effort. Daily exercises will be assigned to stretch and sharpen your mathematical skills. This daily work is due when you arrive in class the following day. If you have questions, you are expected to seek out help before or after school, or call Mrs. DeJong or another student in the evening to ask for help.

When you arrive in class, your homework will be corrected by a classmate, and you'll be expected to attempt the wrong problems a second time. If you're still confused, be sure to ask for help. Completing the problem correctly before turning your work in will earn you full credit ( 5 pts .) for the assignment. Late assignments will be worth less, and no credit will be given to work that isn't turned in.


## Preparedness \& Participation:

It is very important that you come to class with all your materials and a positive attitude so you are prepared to learn. Participation in class is another important way to improve your class experience and ensure you learn as much as possible.

## Quizzes:

Scheduled quizzes will be usually be given one to three times per chapter, covering approximately three lessons. They are worth various points, usually from five to thirty. Pop quizzes will be given at the discretion of the teacher, and will be unannounced. They are usually worth ten to fifteen points. All quizzes will be returned to you, and are a great aid in studying for tests.

## Tests:

Tests will be given at the end of each unit of study. Tests are usually worth 100 points. You will complete a chapter review assignment as a study aid, and you should use your notes, daily work, and quizzes to prepare for tests. Great test grades don't just happen, they come from preparation and study.

## Classroom Conduct:

You are here to learn. As your instructor, $I$ will do my best to make your learning environment a good one. You can help by leaving your cell phone in your locker (not in your pocket on vibrate), and by being a polite and interested student (don't distract others with your actions, and really pay attention to what's happening in class). Get enough rest: staying up late playing a game will not allow you to perform your best in class. I'm here to help, but I can't make you learn. You have to want it.

## Course Grade:

Your grade is based on total points. You can calculate your grade by finding the ratio of your points received to the total possible points for the class (your points divided by possible points). This ratio is your percent, and a letter grade is assigned.

## Study Buddies:

You can count on your classmates to help you when you are confused, forgot the assignment, etc. Please gather the names and phone numbers of two study buddies you can call for help before you call Mrs. DeJong. After you've called your study buddies, if you're still stumped, call Mrs. DeJong at 443-6642.


